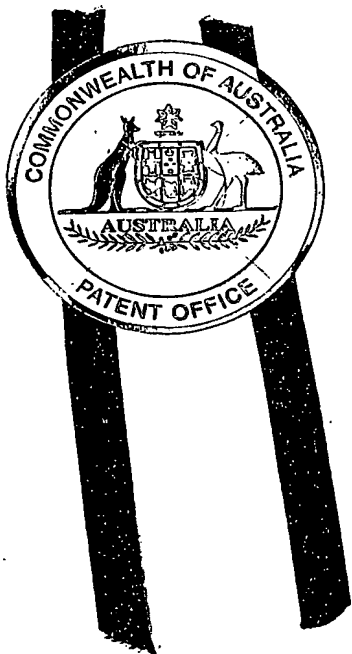




**Patent Office
Canberra**

I, JULIE BILLINGSLEY, TEAM LEADER EXAMINATION SUPPORT AND SALES hereby certify that annexed is a true copy of the Provisional specification in connection with Application No. 2003905580 for a patent by JUSTIN DOUGLAS KING as filed on 13 October 2003.

I further certify that the above application is now proceeding in the name of SOLE SURFER PTY LTD pursuant to the provisions of Section 113 of the Patents Act 1990.



WITNESS my hand this
Twenty-second day of October 2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. Billingsley'.

**JULIE BILLINGSLEY
TEAM LEADER EXAMINATION
SUPPORT AND SALES**

P/00/009
Regulation 3.2

AUSTRALIA

Patents Act 1990

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION

Invention Title: "FOOTWEAR"

The invention is described in the following statement:

TITLE: FOOTWEAR

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

THIS INVENTION relates to footwear.

5 The invention is particularly suitable for, but is not limited to, sandals, including sandals of the type commonly known as "thongs".

2. Prior Art

10 While footwear must meet utilitarian requirements to protect the wearer's feet, footwear has long been a fashion item, especially casual footwear for the young. Generally, to be successful, a footwear manufacturer must have some feature, or design component, which is eye-catching and attractive to consumers. While a high recognition trade mark is important, a new entrant into the
15 footwear market can make significant in-roads against well-known brands if they can provide a design feature which catches the consumer's attention.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

20 It is an object of the present invention to provide a striking design concept for footwear, particularly sandals.

 It is a preferred object to provide such a design concept which is inexpensive to apply to footwear and which will be attractive to consumers.

Other preferred objects will become apparent from the following description.

In a broad aspect, the present invention resides in footwear, preferably sandals, where at least the rearward portion of the sole is shaped to imitate the shape of a surfboard.

Preferably, the underside of the sole incorporates pattern or ornamentation to imitate the fin(s) of a surfboard.

In a preferred embodiment, two or more fin(s) may extend below the sole to form a raised heel portion.

The shapes of the surfboards imitated may include (a) "a single fin" or "pintail"; (b) "a twin fin" or "swallow tail"; and (c) "a triple fin" or "thruster".

The sole may incorporate a leg rope hole, or pattern or ornamentation imitating same.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Preferred embodiments of the invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGS. 1, 2 and 3 each show a plurality of views of footwear with the "single fin", "twin fin" and "triple fin" shapes, respectively, applied to sandals.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE

PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

FIG. 1 shows respective front, side, top, side, rear, top

perspective and bottom perspective views of a thong-type sandal 10 (for a right foot) where the sole 11 has a rear (or heel) portion 12 shaped to imitate a "single fin" or "pintail" surfboard shape.

5 The forward portion 13 of the sole 11, and the straps 14, are shown in broken lines, as they may be of known shape and do not form part of the invention.

A "single fin" 15, eg., of material of contrasting colour, is moulded or fixed in (or on) the lower face of the rear portion 12 to mimic the surfboard fin.

10 A "legrope hole" 16, which may be an actual hole through the sole 11, or a piece of contrasting-colour material moulded in, or fixed to, the underside of the sole 11, imitates the legrope hole on a surfboard.

FIG. 2 shows similar views of a sandal 210 where the rear (or heel) portion 212 of the sole 211 imitates a "twin fin" or "swallow tail" surfboard with a V-shape recess 217 and a pair of "fins" 215.

FIG. 3 shows similar views of a sandal 410 where the rear (or heel) portions 412 of the sole 411 imitates a "triple fin" or "thruster" surfboard, with three fins 415.

20 It will be readily apparent to the skilled addressee that the "twin fins" 215 and triple "fins" 415 may extend below the lower faces of the soles 211, 411 to form raised heels.

The shapes illustrated in FIGS. 1 to 3 are by way of example only and are not limiting to the invention.

The invention is not limited to the thong-type sandals shown, but can be applied to all other sandals, and indeed, to other types of footwear.

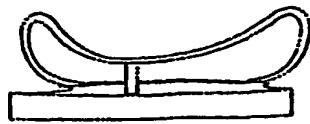
Various changes and modifications may be made to the embodiments described and illustrated without departing from the present invention.

10 DATED this thirteenth day of October 2003.

JUSTIN DOUGLAS KING

By his Patent Attorneys

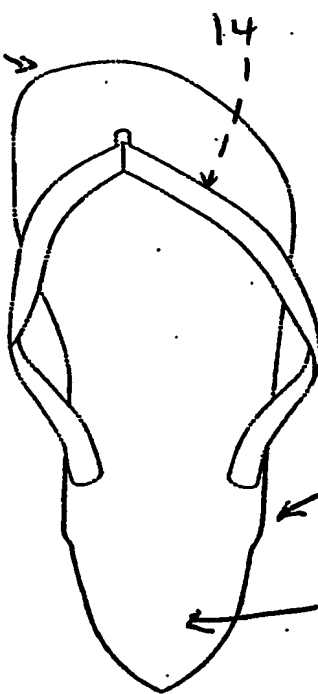
FISHER ADAMS KELLY



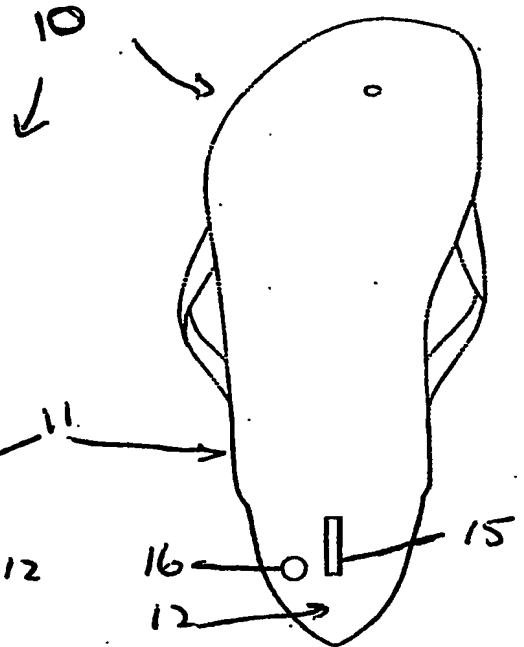
Front View



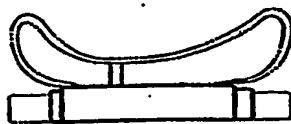
Side View



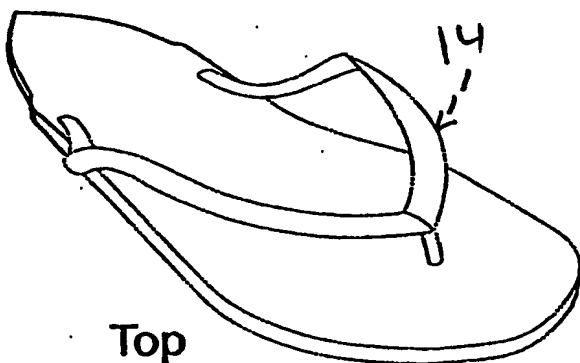
Top View



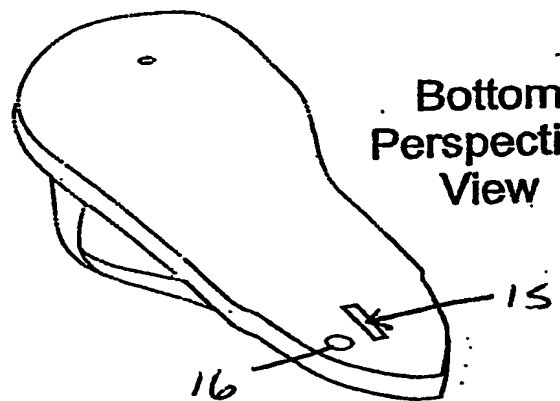
Bottom View



Rear View

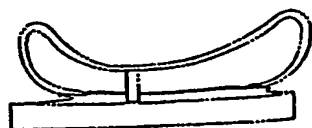


Top
Perspective
View

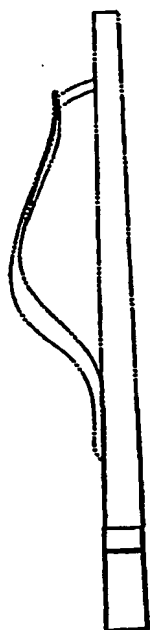


Bottom
Perspective
View

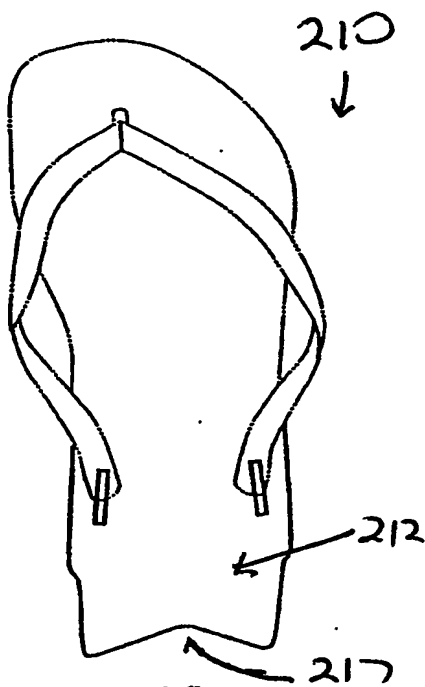
FIG 1



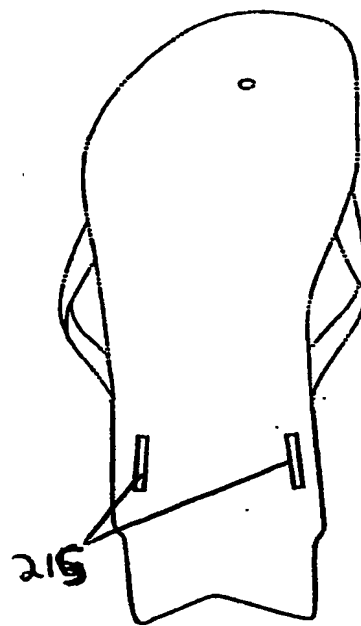
Front View



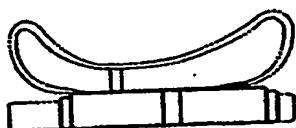
Side View



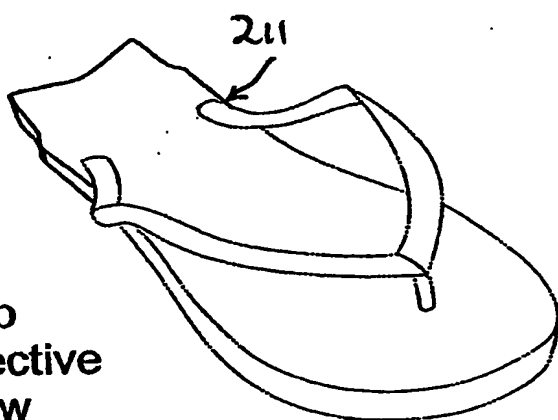
Top View



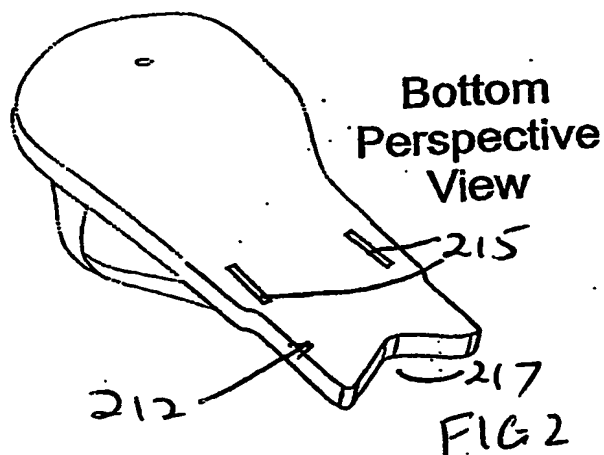
Bottom View



Rear View

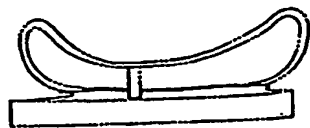


Top
Perspective
View

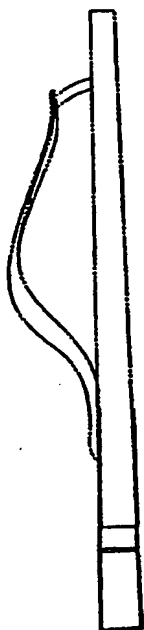


Bottom
Perspective
View

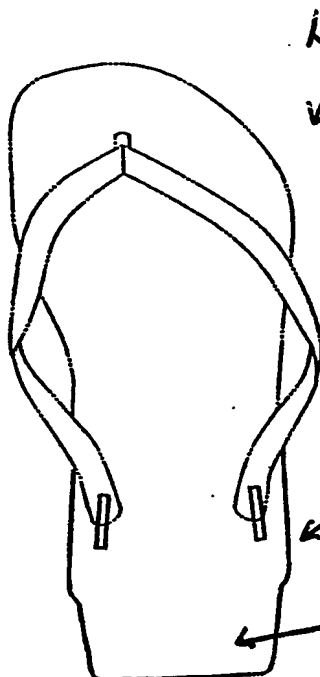
FIG 2



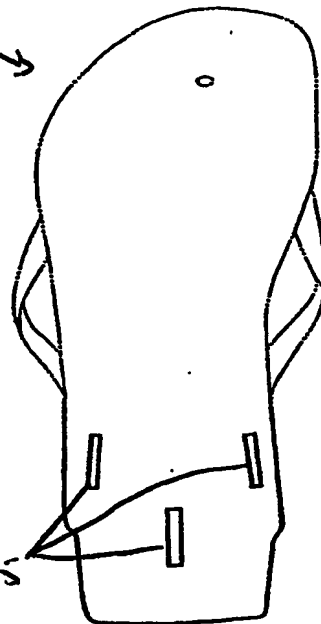
Front View



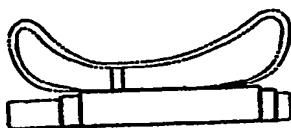
Side View



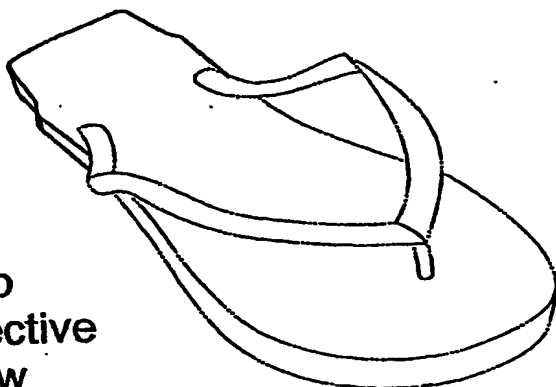
Top View



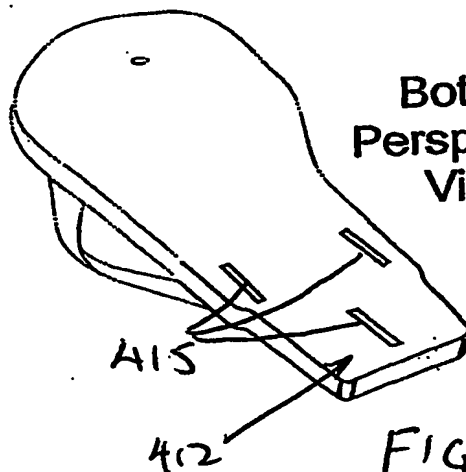
Bottom View



Rear View



Top
Perspective
View



Bottom
Perspective
View

FIG 3

Document made available under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT)

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